

Section XIV

Conclusion

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Legislation mandated that this study be forwarded to the Mayor and the District of Columbia City Council by July 1, 2001. Once decisions are made on the recommendations contained in this study, the State Education Office will take concrete steps toward assumption of each of the approved responsibilities.

Since the Mayor has already approved integration of the Tuition Assistance Grant Program and the functions currently performed by the Office of Post-secondary Education, Research, and Assistance, the SEO will submit a plan that details the transition of these functions prior to their official integration in October 2001.

With respect to the state of the law, it is clear that certain SEO recommendations will require modifications or amendments to existing legislation. The Office of the Corporation Counsel has already articulated its position that, with respect to the assumption of the task of administering and monitoring federal grants, the SEO may be designated as the SEA for the District of Columbia without further amending the Home Rule Charter. However, this is only one of several legal issues that must be analyzed. After the SEO receives approval or disapproval of its recommendations, legislation will be drafted to reflect the necessary amendments to current law.

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